

Small Group Discussion Questions Newberry County

What is occurring in your community which addresses these responsibilities and areas for action?

- Literacy Coaches
- Curriculum coordinators
- Montessori, Reading Recovery
- Reading First, SCRI Literacy
- A+
- Credit Recovery
- Mentors-Faith Based
- Mentors-Teachers (New)
- Alternative School
- Parenting Program
- Family Literacy
- Adult Education
- Parenting program
- Strong faith
- Building program
- Academic enrichment during school hours
- After school tutoring by churches
- YMCA, recreation programs, young life and youth groups
- Partnership with colleges-Piedmont Tech
- Planned meetings w/parents (progress reports)
- Company "needs programs (Louis Rich) Adult education
- Space and funding
- Recognizing teachers
- New building program
- Teacher cadet program
- School improvement process/strategic planning of schools and district
- Schools hosting community events
- After school programs
- City-wide internet access
- Advisor/advisee program
- SIC's
- Implementing EEDA
- Dual Credit
- AP courses
- Building program

What are the critical barriers to fulfilling the commitment in your community?

- Poverty
- Single moms
- Uneducated mom-dropout
- TV babysitter
- High senior population (a disconnect)
- Lack of counseling (available)
- Taxes going up/ are negative
- Small industry base / lack of financial base lack of industry support
- Elder population
- Lack of parental involvement
- Lack of teachers
- Teacher turnover in some schools
- Turnover in administration
- Resources (money, personnel)
- Language barriers
- Housing infrastructure
- Changing demographics
- lack of community focus
- differences in values
- lack of state funding/ limited resources
- lack of parental education level
- lack of fathers in home
- community apathy
- LEP students
- Large percentage of families living below poverty level.

List the five most important things your community can do to address the responsibilities of Common Ground.

- Communicate/open minded
- Volunteer after school program in every school
- Financial support
- Recreation for youth
- Faith based support/leadership
- Positive-cheerleader for schools and their success
- Public recognition/honor acknowledge profession
- Teacher retention(Support/mentor)(Increase pay)
- Community involvement, support(welcome teachers)
- Housing

- Partnerships with businesses, church, community groups, mentoring, sponsoring events, speakers, chamber of commerce
- Discipline
- Promote positive assets of community schools
- Expanding early education
- Support technology upgrades
- Parental involvement
- Increase accessibility to more academically rigorous courses and encourage students to take advantage of them.
- Involvement in cooperation with support of schools by community.
- Adaptable and innovative
- Continue to work together as community members to provide and financially support adequate school facilities and technologies to enhance learning.
- Additional faith-based initiatives/ involvement
- More internships in schools, more opportunities for community/adults share life experiences
- Advocate for changes in the accountability system
- Educate the community about accountability
- Improve community outreach
- Increase program quality
- Improve teacher quality
- Provide parenting programs
- Talk to business community
- Speak to medical community about increasing involvement with schools
- Offer assistance for “welcome teacher” initiative.
- Make myself and others in the my business available to speak at schools or sponsor events.

List the five most important things you as an individual can do to address the responsibilities of Common Ground.

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